

Textile Park and Powerloom Service Centre at Sircilla, Andhra Pradesh

1185. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Minister of State for Textiles has announced sops to Sircilla town in the wake of a series of suicides by handloom workers in the month of April, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the Union Minister of State for Textiles has agreed to set up a textile park in Sircilla;

(c) whether he has also promised to help to set up a Powerloom Servicing Centre in the town for the benefit of the handloom workers;

(d) if so, whether these decisions have been implemented; and

(e) to what extent it has helped the handloom workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (e) Following reports that about 30 Powerloom weavers in and around Sircilla in Karimnagar District of Andhra Pradesh had committed suicide over a period of 2 years, a high level team from Government of India visited Hyderabad and Sircilla in April 2001 and held discussions with the State Government. The main recommendations concerned action for technological upgradation of looms in the cluster, provision of linkages for yarn procurement, product development and marketing, including export; and provision for training and other extension support for upgradation. These included setting up a Processing unit in Sircilla and opening of an Extension Counter in Sircilla of the Powerloom Service Centre at Hyderabad.

No decisions to set up a Textile Park in Sircilla was taken.

Follow up action which lay with this Ministry has been taken:

1. Supply of yarn through NTC as an interim measure in Sircilla.
2. Staff has been deputed to begin the extension Counter in Sircilla to the Powerloom Service Centre in Hyderabad.

3. A team has been sent from the South Indian Textile Research Association (SITRA) to provide technical assistance to the above Extension Counter.
4. The Powerloom Export Development Council (PEDEXCIL) has taken action for the enrollment of members to set up a Powerloom Centre Development Committee (PCDC) in Sircilla.

Technology upgradation fund scheme for textile industry

† 1186. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have introduced any technology upgradation fund scheme for promoting technology development in the textile industry in the recent years;
- (b) if so, when such fund was established;
- (c) the amount disbursed by June, 2001 from the said fund; and
- (d) the sectors under the textile industry to which the amount has been disbursed from the said fund along with the details of amount disbursed to each of the above sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) For modernization of the textile and jute industries, the Government has launched the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) w.e.f., 1.4.99 for a period of 5 years. The scheme is being operated by the Nodal Agencies viz. IDBI, SIDBI & IFCI and their co-opted agencies. The Government funding is limited to reimbursement of 5% interest charged by the financial institutions/banks on a project of technology upgradation in conformity with the scheme, and is released to the Nodal Agencies from the Ministry's budget.

(c) and (d) Under the TUF Scheme from 1.4.1999 to 31.5.2001, a total of 1152 applications with a total project cost of Rs. 12163 crore

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.